

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete paragraph [0003] and replace therewith amended paragraph [0003]:

[0003] Known airfoils have a series of natural frequencies associated with them. More specifically, each airfoil produces a wake in an air stream that is felt as a pulse by a passing airfoil. The combination of the number of stator vanes and the rotational speed of the compressor may coincide with a natural frequency of the rotor blades. The combination of the number of stator vane wakes (pulses) and the rotational speed of the compressor creates a stimulus that may coincide with a natural frequency of the rotor blades. Accordingly, in designing gas turbine engines, at least one design goal is to keep the majority of the ~~air-foil~~ airfoil natural frequencies outside of the designed engine operating range.